

Message Text

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ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00
DODE-00 H-01 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 MC-02 EB-08 IGA-02 AID-05 OMB-01 /077 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:RRDELABARRE:VSS
APPROVED BY C:MNIMETZ
EUR/SE:RCEWING
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S/S- MR. REDDY

-----210225Z 035123 /70

O 210049Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 089679

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PFOR, TU

SUBJECT: SECURITY ASSISTANCE FOR TURKEY

1. COUNSELOR NIMETZ CALLED IN TURKISH CHARGE NURES APRIL 20 TO REVIEW CONTENT OF ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING SECURITY ASSISTANCE FOR TURKEY AND GREECE WHICH WILL BE PRESENTED TO CONGRESSIONAL SUBCOMMITTEES APRIL 21. NURES WAS PROVIDED COPY OF NIMETZ STATEMENT (TEXT SENT SEPTEL).

2. NIMETZ TOLD NURES THAT ADMINISTRATION WOULD A) ENDORSE
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TURKISH DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT (DCA) IN PRINCIPLE BUT NOT PRESS FOR ITS IMMEDIATE PASSAGE; B) RECOMMEND A DOLS 175 MILLION CEILING IN FMS SALES AND FINANCING FOR FY 78 AND NO GRANT ASSISTANCE UNTIL PASSAGE OF THE DCA; AND C) RECOMMEND THAT THE TURKISH F-4 PROGRAM BE PERMITTED TO CONTINUE ON A GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT BASIS WITHOUT REGARD TO THE FMS CEILING.

3. NIMETZ EMPHASIZED THAT THE ADMINISTRATION CONSIDERED ITS PROPOSAL A MODERATE PROGRAM, BUT THAT SOME IN CONGRESS HAD ALREADY CHARACTERIZED IT AS VERY PRO-TURKISH. THEY MAINTAIN THAT NO RESULTS WERE ACHIEVED IN THE VIENNA TALKS OR OTHERWISE ON CYPRUS AND THUS SOME HAVE SUGGESTED A

LOWERING OF THE TURKISH FMS CEILING TO LESS THAN THE FY 1977 DOLS 125 MILLION LEVEL. NIMETZ EMPHASIZED THAT THE ADMINISTRATION, ALTHOUGH NOT CONCURRING IN THAT VIEW, WAS SOMEWHAT ON THE DEFENSIVE AND COULD NOT SUCCESSFULLY ARGUE FOR A MORE GENEROUS ASSISTANCE PACKAGE FOR TURKEY AT THIS TIME. WE AGREED THERE WERE SOME POSITIVE ELEMENTS PRESENT IN VIENNA, BUT WE WERE FRANKLY DISAPPOINTED THAT MORE HAD NOT BEEN ACCOMPLISHED.

4. NURES SAID ANKARA HAD HOPED FOR STRONGER ADMINISTRATION ENDORSEMENT OF DCA AND ALSO WOULD LIKE ADMINISTRATION TRY TO SCHEDULE EARLY CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS. NIMETZ RESPONDED THAT WHILE WE ARE CAREFUL NOT TO MAKE PUBLIC ISSUE OF LINKAGE BETWEEN THE DCA AND CYPRUS, IT WAS TRUE, AS CLARK CLIFFORD HAD TOLD THE TURKS, THAT DCA DOES NOT HAVE GOOD CHANCE FOR PASSAGE WITHOUT PROGRESS ON CYPRUS. NURES REITERATED TURKISH INABILITY ACCEPT LINKAGE BETWEEN THESE TWO ISSUES BUT AFFIRMED SINCERE TURKISH DESIRE TO WORK TOWARD SETTLEMENT ON CYPRUS.

6. NIMETZ SAID ADMINISTRATION WOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT MOVE ITS PROPOSAL FOR SECURITY ASSISTANCE FOR TURKEY
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THROUGH THE CONGRESS. THE ADMINISTRATION, HE SAID, WAS CONVINCED THAT TURKEY REALLY WANTED A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT. WE HOPED REAL PROGRESS COULD BE MADE THIS YEAR.
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